

## **Edwards: Waco Health Center to Receive \$1.9 million in Stimulus Funding to Update Facilities and Equipment**

(WASHINGTON) -U.S. Representative Chet Edwards announced today that the Heart of Texas Community Health Center in Waco, TX will receive a \$1,901,790 grant from the Recovery Act Capital Improvement Program to address immediate and pressing health center facility and equipment needs.

"Increasing access to quality health care for the hard working families in the community is one of my top priorities, especially during these trying economic times," said Edwards. "By providing health care facilities with the necessary supplies and much needed equipment, we are ensuring the best health care service possible."

The Recovery Act Capital Improvement Program (CIP) grants will support the construction, repair and renovation of over 1,500 health center sites nationwide. The Heart of Texas Community Health Center serves a client population of over 40,000 in McLennan County. More than 75% of patients cared for at the Community Health Center have incomes at or below 100% of Federal Poverty Level.

This grant will be used to expand one clinic and build an additional clinic, a project that would have taken several additional years without the stimulus funds. This funding is in addition to the \$668,259 in funds received earlier in the year which were used to expand services to the

community. These grants were made possible by Stimulus legislation signed into law by the President on February 17th of this year.

Other stimulus funds announced for McLennan County include \$1.2 million for Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants, \$7.9 million for upgrades to the Waco VA hospital, \$2.1 million in Public Housing Capital Fund Grants, \$17.5 million in education funds for local school districts, \$13.1 million for rehabilitation of the runway at the Waco Regional Airport, and \$610,557 in formula grants for law enforcement from the Department of Justice.

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